

**Use Information:** This paragraph is informational only and is not exclusively definitive of the end use. For high quality offset printing. The 16- and 20-pound white papers are for stationery, face only; all colors, for open forms, legal documents, ledgers, etc. face and back, suitable for processing through high speed copiers and laser printers, requiring execution with pen and ink, erasing quality, and permanence (archival quality). Opacity of white paper is not a specified property and therefore, subject to variation. Printed matter may include text and light line illustrations.

**Stock:** Not less than 25% cotton or linen fibers; the remainder bleached chemical woodpulp  
*Note:* Not less than 30% postconsumer fiber. Any percent over 30 percentage points, is encouraged, provided that the requirements of this Standard are met.

**Acidity:** pH value by cold extraction shall be not less than 7.5. The paper shall contain not less than 2% calcium carbonate.  
*Note:* Any deviation in this requirement is sufficient cause for rejection of the paper.

**Basis weight:** 17 by 22 inches,  
500 sheets (pounds)..... 16    20    24  
A tolerance of ±5% shall be allowed.

**Folding endurance:** Average not less than (MIT double folds) ..... 75    75    80

**Tearing strength:** Average each direction not less than (grams) ..... 33    40    45

**Ruling and writing quality:** Lines ruled and characters written with ball point and felt tip pens shall be clear cut and free from excessive feathering.

**Erasing quality:** Paper shall retain good ruling, writing, and typing quality, texture, and surface appearance, without ink spreading after repeated erasure.

**Watermark<sup>2</sup>:** Shall be the seal of the United States, with one star and year of manufacture, on the basis of four times on a sheet 17 by 22 inches, one in each quarter. The

watermark shall be clear and legible. When viewed from the felt side of the sheet, the design shall appear as illustrated in Part 3 (Style D.)

**Curl:** Paper shall lie flat before and after processing through a high speed copier or laser printer with either no tendency to curl or with a curl which can be overcome under reasonable working conditions.

**General appearance:** Paper shall conform to the standard sample(s) established by the Government.  
**Brightness:** The white paper shall have a target brightness not less than 82% or as specified.

**Color:** The paper in the order (or publication) shall be uniform and the color variation shall not exceed DE(CIELAB) = 1.0.

For colored stock, paper shall match one of the established color standards in Part 3 or match a color sample supplied by the ordering agency. Colors shall not fade or transfer (rub off) and shall appear even and uniform on the surface of the sheet. The sheet shall not be 2-sided.

**Finish and formation:** Shall be uniform.  
**Cleanliness:** The dirt count for each side of the paper shall not exceed 650 specks per square meter. No sample sheet (600 to 650 cm<sup>2</sup> in size) shall contain more than one defect with equivalent area of 0.25 mm<sup>2</sup> or greater.

**ANSI/NISO:** Conformance to the standard Z39.48—1992 allows the printing of the infinity symbol (∞) in the document or publication.

**Testing:** Shall be conducted in accordance with methods in part 2, *Government Paper Specification Standards*. The acceptance criteria Part 4 shall apply.

<sup>1</sup> This grade with the Government watermark is available in mill run quantities only.

<sup>2</sup> Full size copy will be provided upon request.